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Featuring:

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## **Tennessee Farmers Report Crop Acreages For 2005**

Based on a survey recently conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Tennessee Field Office, farmers planted more cotton and soybeans this year, while reducing corn, wheat, and burley tobacco acreage. Favorable spring weather allowed producers to plant their crops on schedule with only minor disruptions. This was especially true for cotton farmers, who had virtually completed planting by the third week in May. "We have seen a definite shift from corn to cotton this year, especially in our major cotton producing counties," stated TASS Director Debra Kenerson. Crop acreages and expected changes from last year are as follows: Cotton, 630,000 acres, up 19 percent; Soybeans, 1.23 million acres, up 2 percent; Corn, 620,000 acres, down 60,000 acres; Tobacco, 23,260 acres, down 23 percent; and Hay, 1.88 million acres, down 3 percent.

### **Cotton Acreage at Highest Level Since 1995**

Between 2001 and 2004 the State's cotton acreage has dropped a total of 90,000 acres, but the crop has bounced back in a big way this year. Factors such as normal crop rotation, boll weevil eradication, and ideal planting conditions have played a major role in cotton's resurgence. Planted acreage for 2005 is forecast at 630,000 acres, up 100,000 from last year and the highest level in the State since 1995. The recent warm, dry weather has benefited the crop, as development through the end of June was about a week ahead of the normal pace. As of the week ending June 26, three-fourths of the cotton acreage had reached the squaring stage and the crop was rated in mostly good condition.

#### Soybean Acreage Up Slightly From Last Year

Despite rust concerns, Tennessee's 2005 soybean acreage is estimated at 1.23 million acres, up 2 percent from last year's 1.21 million. Area for harvest is estimated at 1.20 million acres, also up 2 percent from 2004. Producers planted more early season varieties and fewer double crop The percent of acreage planted beans this season. following another harvested crop dropped from 32 percent

in 2004 to 15 percent in 2005. In addition, since there were no rain delays and soil temperatures were favorable, most single crop beans were planted ahead of schedule. Soybean planting began the last week of April, and by the end of June nearly all of the crop was in the ground and emerged, about a week ahead of the normal pace. The crop was rated in mostly good condition.

# **Lowest Corn Acreage Since 1993;** Sorghum up Slightly

The State's corn acreage is at estimated 620,000 acres, down 70,000 acres from earlier intended acreage, and 9 percent less than a year ago. If realized, this will tie the record low previously set in 1990 and 1991. Growers expect to harvest 560,000 acres for grain, 55,000 acres less than last year and the lowest since 1995. Planting was virtually completed by mid-May. Acreage is down significantly in the major cotton producing counties and unchanged to down slightly elsewhere. At month's end, 29 percent of the crop had entered the silking stage and the crop was rated in mostly good condition. Area planted to sorghum in 2005 is estimated at 22,000 acres, up 2,000 from 2004 and 7,000 acres from earlier intentions. Area for grain harvest is estimated at 20,000 acres, up 3,000 acres from last year.

### **Burley Acreage Down Sharply**

The State's 2005 burley tobacco acreage is expected to decline 29 percent from a year ago to 17,000 acres. Tennessee tobacco growers intend to harvest a total of 23,260 acres, down 7,000 acres from a year ago. By type, harvested area and change from 2004 for Tennessee's tobacco crops are as follows: Type 22 Eastern dark-fired, 5,300 acres, unchanged from last year; Type 23 Western dark-fired, 420 acres, unchanged; and Type 35 dark aircured, 540 acres, also unchanged from 2004. As of June 26, the majority of the intended acreage had been transplanted, on pace with last year and normal. Despite reports of disease pressure, such as black shank and tomato spotted wilt virus, the crop was rated in mostly good condition.

## Wheat Acreage Down One Third

The 2005 winter wheat planted area is estimated at 270,000 acres, down 130,000 acres from the previous year. Anticipated area for harvest as grain is 170,000 acres, down 110,000 acres from the 2004 total. The problem for wheat growers was two-fold this year. Farmers were not able to sow as much wheat as they planned due to weather delays in the fall or, once it was sown, wet conditions and frost hindered proper development. As of June 26, eighty-eight percent of the crop had been harvested, ahead of last year and the normal pace.

# Hay Acreage Down from 2004

Tennessee producers intend to harvest 1.88 million acres of hay in 2005, down 3 percent from last year. Alfalfa acreage is estimated at 25,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from a year earlier and the lowest recorded acreage since 1930. All other hay is estimated at 1.85 million acres, down 3 percent from 2004. Tennessee's hay harvest got off to a slow start due to cool, wet weather during late April and into early May. Drier conditions followed and farmers were able to make up for most of the early delays. By early June, a wet weather pattern set in again, hampering harvest progress while also lowering quality. As of June 26, nearly a third of the alfalfa hay acreage had been cut twice. Both alfalfa and other hay have remained in mostly good condition throughout the growing season.

Planted and Harvested Acres of Principal Crops: Tennessee and U.S., 2004 - 2005

Cana	Planted	Acres	Harvested Acres			
Crop	2004	2005	2004	2005	2005 / 2004	
			Percent			
TENNESSEE						
Corn	680	620	615	560	91	
Cotton	530	630	525	1	-	
Soybeans	1,210	1,230	1,180	1,200	102	
Winter Wheat	400	270	280	170	61	
Sorghum	20	22	17	20	118	
Hay, all	-	-	1,935	1,875	97	
Alfalfa	-	-	35	25	71	
All other	-	-	1,900	1,850	97	
Tobacco, all	-	-	30.26	23.26	77	
Eastern dark-fired (22)	-	-	5.30	5.30	100	
Western dark-fired (23)	-	-	.42	.42	100	
Burley (31)	-	-	24.00	17.00	71	
One sucker (35)	-	-	.54	.54	100	
UNITED STATES						
Corn	80,930	81,592	73,632	74,368	101	
Cotton <sup>2</sup>	13,658.6	14,026.0	13,057.0	1	-	
Soybeans	75,208	73,303	73,958	72,384	98	
Winter Wheat	43,350	41,408	34,462	34,271	99	
Sorghum	7,486	7,013	6,517	6,030	93	
Hay, all	-	-	61,916	61,723	100	
Alfalfa	-	-	21,707	22,118	102	
All other	-	-	40,209	39,605	98	
Tobacco, all	-	-	408.04	316.86	78	
Eastern dark-fired (22)	-	-	8.00	8.70	109	
Western dark-fired (23)	-	-	3.02	3.42	113	
Burley (31)	-	-	153.15	107.60	70	
One sucker (35)	-	-	2.89	2.84	98	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Estimate to be released August 12, 2005. <sup>2</sup>U.S. acreage includes American Pima cotton.

Grain Stocks: Tennessee and U.S., June 1, 2005 with Comparisons

	Gram Stocks.	1 chiicssec and c	3.5., June 1, 20	705 With Compt	1130113			
Crop		Tennessee		United States				
	June 1, 2004	March 1, 2005	June 1, 2005	June 1, 2004	March 1, 2005	June 1, 2005		
	1,000 Bushels							
On-Farm Stocks 1								
Corn				1,540,000	4,137,000	2,462,300		
Wheat				131,880	304,710	161,275		
Soybeans				110,000	795,000	356,100		
Grain Sorghum				7,650	33,400	16,000		
Oats				27,500	43,500	25,350		
Off-Farm Stocks <sup>2</sup>								
Corn	4,208	11,230	4,945	1,430,140	2,618,261	1,857,657		
Wheat	2,105	5,823	3,555	414,559	679,681	378,566		
Soybeans	709	2,218	1,228	300,604	586,364	343,544		
Grain Sorghum	3	3	3	72,944	170,122	88,369		
Oats	190	110	3	37,348	38,946	32,613		
<b>Total Stocks</b>								
Corn				2,970,140	6,755,261	4,319,957		
Wheat				546,439	984,391	539,841		
Soybeans				410,604	1,381,364	699,644		
Grain Sorghum				80,594	203,522	104,369		
Oats				64,848	82,446	57,963		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Estimates for Tennessee on-farm stocks are not published. <sup>2</sup> Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors. <sup>3</sup> Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

**U.S. Hog Inventory:** All hogs and pigs on June 1, 2005, were 60.8 million head. This was up slightly from June 1, 2004, and up 2 percent from March 1, 2005. Breeding inventory, at 5.98 million head, was up 1 percent from both June 1, 2004 and last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.8 million head, was up slightly from last year, and up 2 percent from last quarter.

The March - May 2005 U.S. pig crop, at 25.9 million head, was up 1 percent from both 2004 and 2003. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.87 million head, unchanged from last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.02 for the March - May 2005 period, compared to 8.93 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

**U.S. Slaughter:** Cattle slaughter totaled 2.79 million head, down 2 percent from May 2004. The average live weight was up 20 pounds from the previous year, at 1,224 pounds. Calf slaughter totaled 58,500 head, down 10 percent from May 2004. The average live weight was 22 pounds above last year, at 376 pounds. Hog kill totaled 8.03 million head, 6 percent above May 2004. The average live weight was 4 pounds above the previous year, at 270 pounds. Sheep slaughter totaled 208,000 head, 10 percent above last year. The average live weight was 143 pounds, up 5 pounds from May a year ago.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter<sup>1</sup>: United States, May 2004 and 2005

Species		Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	
	1,000	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Cattle	2,836	2,792	3,415,402	3,416,695	1,204	1,224	
Calves	65	59	22,911	21,980	354	376	
Hogs	7,579	8,030	2,016,047	2,167,449	266	270	
Sheep & lambs	189	208	26,098	29,639	138	143	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter (excludes farm slaughter).

Prices Received by Farmers: Tennessee & U.S., June 2005 with Comparisons

		Tennessee			United States				
Commodity	Unit	June	May <sup>1</sup>	June <sup>2</sup>	June	May <sup>1</sup>	June <sup>2</sup>		
		2004	2005	2005	2004	2005	2005		
		Dollars Per Unit							
Field Crops									
Winter Wheat	bu.	3.47	4	4	3.46	3.23	3.06		
Corn	bu.	2.72	2.45	2.45	2.79	1.99	2.01		
Cotton Lint	lb.	.588	.395	$.395^{3}$	.599	.420	$.407^{3}$		
Soybeans	bu.	8.98	6.38	6.70	9.08	6.20	6.72		
Livestock									
All beef cattle	cwt.	84.00	92.20	90.20	89.80	92.40	89.50		
Steers/heifers	cwt.	106.00	115.00	113.00	93.80	96.40	93.10		
Cows	cwt.	51.00	58.00	56.00	53.70	58.50	57.30		
Calves	cwt.	118.00	134.00	131.00	125.00	141.00	140.00		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Entire month. <sup>2</sup> Mid-month. <sup>3</sup> Based on purchases first half of month. <sup>4</sup> Insufficient sales to establish price

#### **TGPA Goat Auction and Marketing Seminar**

The Tennessee Goat Producers Association (TGPA) is having an auction and marketing seminar on August 6, 2005. Animal viewing starts at 9:00 A.M. at the Marshall County Agricultural Center in Lewisburg. Mr. Royce Johns, Lic. #136, from Franklin, TN will conduct the auction. All meat-type animals will meet the conformation standards of the American Meat Goat Association (AMGA), dairy animals will meet the breed standards of the American Dairy Goat Association (ADGA), and sellers will guarantee the soundness and health status of their consignments. Animals will be inspected by Dr. Victor Wakefield, DVM, for visible signs of infectious or contagious diseases including Caseous lymphadenitis (CL) and others. He will also check for required health certificates.

In addition, a seminar on "Forming a Value Added Meat Goat Cooperative" will be presented to the audience by Mr. Charles Batten, President of the Sunbelt Meat Goat Cooperative in Georgia.

For more information about the TGPA sale contact Dr. Maria Leite-Browning, TGPA Vice-President at mllbahia@aol.com or (615) 336 - 2127, Mrs. Robin Cotten, TGPA Sales Committee Chair at sawtree@bigriver.net, or watch the TGPA website (www.tngoatproducers.org) for updates.